

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please delete the paragraph beginning on line 4 and ending on line 28 of page 4, and replace with the following paragraph:

Thus the invention now provides a method for producing a filamentous bacterium showing reduced branching during growth, particularly growth in a liquid medium, comprising providing such a bacterium with the capability of having or expressing heterologous SsgA activity, which activity in *Streptomyces Griseus* is encoded by an *ssgA* gene having the sequence:

C'  
1 ATGCGCGAGTCGGTTCAAGCAGAGGTCATGATGAGCTTCCTCGTCTCCGA  
51 GGAGCTCTCGTTCCGTATTCCGGTGGAGCTCCGATACGAGGTCGGCGATC  
101 CGTATGCCATCCGGATGACGTTCCACCTTCCCGGCGATGCCCCTGTGACC  
151 TGGGCGTTCGGCCGCGAGCTGCTGCTGGACGGGCTCAACAGCCCGAGCGG  
201 CGACGGCGATGTGCACATCGGCCCGACCGAGCCCGAGGGCCTCGGAGATG  
251 TCCACATCCGGCTCCAGGTCGGCGCGGACCGTGCGCTGTTCCGGGCGGGG  
301 ACGGCACCGCTGGTGGCGTTCCTCGACCGGACGGACAAGCTCGTGCCGCT  
351 CGGCCAGGAGCACACGCTGGGTGACTTCGACGGCAACCTGGAGGACGCAC  
401 TGGGCCGCATCCTCGCCGAGGAGCAGAACGCCGGCTGA (SEQ ID NO: 1).

Please delete the paragraph beginning on line 1 and ending on line 14 of page 20, and replace it with the following paragraph:

## Oligonucleotides

~~primer~~ primer

Nucl. Pos. Nucl. Pos.

ssg1 5' GGCGAATTCGAACAGCTACGTGGCGAAGTCGCCA3'

GGCGAATTCGAACAGCTACGTGGCGAAGTCGCCA3' (SEQ ID NO: 10) -194/-170

(nucleotides 1-9 are non-homologous, added nucleotides to create an EcoRI site at nucleotides 5-

9)

C<sup>2</sup> ssg2 5' GTGGGATCCGTGCTCGCGGCGCTGGTCGTCTC 3'

GTGGGATCCGTGCTCGCGGCGCTGGTCGTCTC 3' (SEQ ID NO: 11) +539/+517

(nucleotides 1-9 are non-homologous, added nucleotides to create a BamHI site at nucleotides 4-

9)

ssg3 5' GGGAATTCCATATGCGCGAGTCGGTTCAAGCA 3'

GGGAATTCCATATGCGCGAGTCGGTTCAAGCA 3' (SEQ ID NO: 12) -30/-10

(nucleotides 1-11 are non-homologous, added nucleotides to create an EcoRI and NdeI sites at nucleotides 3-14)

ssg4 5' CCGGTCAGCCGGCGTTCTGCTCCTC 3' (SEQ ID NO: 13) +412/388

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